

## **Music Development Plan 2025 - 2026**

### **Part A: Curriculum music**

Sutton on the Forest CE Primary School has embedded the 'Sing Up' scheme within its curriculum to support musical development across its mixed-age classes through a carefully mapped 2-year rolling programme. Pupils benefit from weekly music lessons delivered collaboratively by a volunteer music specialist and the class teacher, ensuring expert guidance and continuity. The school has a range of musical instruments to enrich the curriculum and support the progression of musical skills. The 'Sing Up' scheme also incorporates pupil-led composition and improvisation activities, fostering creativity and musical agency in line with the school's vision of aiming higher together.

The school has recently invested in the 'Musician of the Month' which fits perfectly alongside our music scheme and is aimed at creating a culture of musical appreciation and understanding within our school. The resource focuses on a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music, carefully drawn from different traditions, composers and musicians. This is delivered to the whole school during collective worship and resources. Additionally, the computing curriculum complements this by integrating music technology elements, including audio production and sequencing sounds, broadening pupils' technical skills and engagement with modern musical tools.

A clear assessment framework tracks pupils' progress across the key areas of technical, constructive, and expressive musical development, reflecting OFSTED's expectations for high-quality music education. This structured approach ensures pupils build solid foundations in music, aligned with the values of respect, perseverance, and compassion.

#### **Next steps:**

- Develop a strategic plan to embed the use of the school's musical instruments more systematically within lessons, ensuring pupils have regular, meaningful hands-on opportunities.
- Provide targeted professional development for staff and volunteers to deepen their confidence and expertise in delivering the full scope of the music curriculum.

### **Part B: Co-curricular music**

Sutton on the Forest CE Primary School offers a vibrant range of co-curricular music opportunities that complement its curriculum provision. Weekly singing assemblies foster a communal singing culture, while peripatetic lessons in piano and wind instruments, funded by parents, provide tailored instrumental tuition. The school's 'Rock n Pops' programme offers pupils from Year 1 the chance to learn keyboard, guitar, and drums, also supported by parental funding. Pupils have access to a variety of instruments including a piano, keyboards, and percussion during these sessions.

Recorder club runs during lunchtimes and is open to children from Year 2 – Year 6. Over the course of the academic year, all children have been involved in African drumming workshops and whole school weekly singing. These activities align well with the school's ethos of friendship and inclusivity, offering pupils diverse musical pathways.

**Next steps:**

- Expand co-curricular offerings by establishing instrument-specific ensembles or clubs to engage a wider range of musical interests and talents.
- Implement strategies to improve equal access, such as financial support or subsidies, ensuring all pupils can participate regardless of economic background.
- Foster partnerships with local music organisations and secondary schools to enrich the co-curricular programme and provide pupils with enhanced musical opportunities.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

Pupils at Sutton on the Forest CE Primary School enjoy a variety of enriching musical experiences that extend their learning beyond the classroom. These include attending pantomimes at the theatre in York, participating in national online orchestra viewings, and engaging with performances by the school's 'Rock n Pops' band. Seasonal events, such as Christmas and summer concerts, involve the whole school and are integral to the school's community spirit, reflecting its values of compassion and respect. Additionally, the school hosts music-related events at the local church during traditional festivals such as Harvest Festival, Easter and Christmas, strengthening community links and cultural appreciation.

**Next steps:**

- Increase opportunities for pupils to experience live music performances or workshops, either onsite or at local venues, to diversify their exposure to different musical genres and live settings.
- Develop partnerships with local orchestras, music hubs, or professional ensembles to provide pupils with access to high-quality musical events and participation opportunities.

## **In the Future**

Looking ahead, Sutton on the Forest CE Primary School plans to broaden its musical provision by participating in the 'Young Voices' programme, enabling pupils to perform in large-scale choral events that build confidence and community spirit. The school is keen to establish long-term collaborations with local music organisations, universities, and secondary schools to provide a sustained and diverse range of musical experiences that support its vision of aiming higher together. There is also an ambition

to deepen community involvement in the school's musical life by hosting concerts and inviting parents and guardians to actively participate, fostering a strong sense of friendship and shared celebration through music.

**Potential next steps:**

- Formalise engagement with the 'Young Voices' programme and develop a clear pathway for pupil participation and preparation.
- Pursue strategic partnerships with local music organisations and educational institutions to secure ongoing support and enrichment opportunities.
- Create community-focused musical events that encourage parental and local involvement, strengthening the school's role as a cultural hub.